

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13

INTRODUCED BY B. HANDS

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF THE "2030 CHALLENGE"; AND ENCOURAGING THE STATE TO BECOME CARBON NEUTRAL BY 2030.

WHEREAS, the "2030 Challenge" calls for the immediate energy reduction of all new and renovated buildings to one-half the national average for that building type, with increased reductions of 10% every 5 years so that by the year 2030 all buildings designed will be carbon neutral, meaning they will use no fossil-fuel energy; and

WHEREAS, the American Institute of Architects, the National Association of Counties, and the United States Conference of Mayors support the "2030 Challenge"; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has found that climate disruption is a reality and that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of global-warming pollution; and

WHEREAS, the North American and global building sector has been shown to be a major consumer of fossil fuel and producer of greenhouse gases that cause global warming; and

WHEREAS, the federal government, through programs fostered in many of its key agencies, and numerous state governments as well as municipalities across the U.S. have adopted high-performance green building principles; and

WHEREAS, a study completed by researchers from Capital E and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the most definitive cost-benefit analysis of green buildings conducted, concluded that the financial benefits of green design are between \$50 and \$70 per square foot, more than 10 times the additional cost associated with building green; and

WHEREAS, the large positive impact on employee productivity and health gains suggests that green building has a cost-effective impact beyond just the utility bill savings; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that a building's initial construction costs represent only 20% to 30% of the building's entire costs over its 30- to 40-year life, emphasis should be placed on the "life cycle costs" of a public building rather than solely on its initial capital costs; and

WHEREAS, the construction industry in the U.S. represents a significant portion of our economy, a

1 significant portion of the building industry is represented by small business, and an increase in sustainable  
2 building practices will encourage and promote new and innovative small business development throughout the  
3 nation.

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5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
6 STATE OF MONTANA:

7 (1) That new construction of buildings be designed to achieve, and achieve, a minimum delivered  
8 fossil-fuel greenhouse gas-emitting energy consumption performance standard of one-half the U.S. average for  
9 that building type as defined by the Environmental Protection Agency in the EPA's Target Finder.

10 (2) That renovation building projects be designed to achieve, and achieve, a minimum delivered  
11 fossil-fuel greenhouse gas-emitting energy consumption performance standard of one-half the U.S. average for  
12 that building type as defined by the EPA's Target Finder.

13 (3) That all other new construction, renovation, repairs, and replacements of buildings employ  
14 cost-effective, energy-efficient, green building practices to the maximum extent possible.

15 (4) That the Montana Legislature, through passage of this resolution, intends to increase the fossil-fuel  
16 greenhouse gas-emitting reduction standard for all new buildings to carbon neutral by 2030, in the following  
17 increments:

18 60% in 2010;

19 70% in 2015;

20 80% in 2020;

21 90% in 2025; and

22 carbon-neutral in 2030.

23 (5) That the State of Montana work in conjunction with other appropriate organizations to join this effort  
24 to develop plans to fully implement similar targets.

25 (6) That the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the  
26 Majority Leader of the United States Senate and the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the  
27 Montana Congressional Delegation, the United States Secretary of Energy, and the Administrator of the  
28 Environmental Protection Agency.

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